

April 23, 2003

**Public Notice for Section 401 Water Quality Certification
for
California Department of Transportation
Trinidad Southbound Safety Roadside Rest Area
Water Supply Upgrade at 1-HUM-101-102.9/103.7
WDID No. 1B03008WNHU**

Humboldt County

On January 13, 2003, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (CDOT) requesting Federal Clean Water Act, Section 401, Water Quality Certification for the Trinidad Southbound Safety Roadside Rest Area (SRRA) Water Supply Upgrade located in Humboldt County, California. The proposed project causes disturbances to waters of the United States associated with Savage Creek in the Big Lagoon Hydrologic Area No. 108.10.

CDOT is proposing to replace deteriorated water lines and upgrade the infiltration gallery for the water supply to the Trinidad Southbound SRRA on Route 101 at PM 102.8/103.7. This will include replacing the existing water storage tank and the instream infiltration gallery in Savage Creek. Construction will involve temporary stream diversion, excavation, concrete work, trenching, electrical work, and installation of new water lines.

Savage Creek will be diverted to replace the existing collection system within the infiltration gallery. Placement of a temporary dam upstream of the infiltration gallery will divert creek flow into the culvert inlet, bypassing the work area. Excess water in the infiltration basin will be removed to create a dry work area within the concrete housing. Any debris, sediment, or water will be contained within the work site or diverted into a sediment/basin tank, so that only clean, filtered water will enter Savage Creek. Approximately 9.5 cubic yards of gravel will be deposited.

The electrical supply to the existing well pump will be upgraded and the pumphouse will be relocated. The pumphouse will be moved approximately 65 feet east of its current position to a location just north of Savage Creek. The new location is about 10 feet north of Savage Creek, outside of the streambed, bank, or channel.

A concrete pad and a new 4,000-gallon water storage tank will be constructed on the west side of Route 101 at PM 102.9. This will replace the existing 4,000-gallon redwood tank. Equipment that may be used on this project includes chainsaws, chippers, generators, bobcats, backhoes, loaders, dump trucks, trenchers, pavers, rollers, concrete trucks, and pumps.

This project will result in no net loss of wetlands. Approximately 0.01 acre of wetland will be temporarily impacted by this project.

Compensatory mitigation is not required for this project. Noncompensatory mitigation measures include the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for erosion and sediment control. A sediment basin will also be constructed at the project site. BMPs also include mulching and hydro-seeding all areas disturbed by the project. All instream work will be performed during the low-flow period between June 15 and October 15.

The California Department of Transportation, as the lead agency, has determined this project to be categorically exempt pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15301, Class 1.

CDOT's Trinidad Southbound SRRA Water Upgrade is scheduled to begin April 15, 2005 and will be complete by October 15, 2003. Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341). In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Dayna Lieberman at (707) 576-6712, or at liebd@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.